

committee. But I'm going to tell you why I think the whole thing is a sham. There are 15 senators, if what I read in the paper is correct, who signed a letter telling the Attorney General they want him to review whether or not Initiative 300 is being enforced, whether there are corporations holding farmland who should not be allowed to do that and, if so, take the action prescribed by that amendment to cause them to cease. If, after two years, they don't divest, then whatever they've got escheats to the estate. Well, how can they sign that letter telling the Attorney General to do that and then say they are going to put together a committee to study it and what the committee says will have no legal force and effect whatsoever? Up to a certain point, an opinion by the Attorney General will have legal consequences. Suppose he makes a determination that there is no operation in the state in violation of Initiative 300, then one of the big reasons for pushing the repeal is taken away. We've been told that there is operation after operation which must be shut down. This study group can't make that determination. The Attorney General is supposed to be undertaking that examination right now. So, what ought to be done, if that was not an attempt merely to try to embarrass this Attorney General and help Mr. Stenberg, that's what I call him, Senator Peterson calls him "Stingberg", but whatever he is called, if it's not an attempt to embarrass Mr. Spire to help Mr. Stenberg, then I don't know why those 15 senators offered that letter, then are supporting a study. The two things are moving at cross-purposes. So I would like to ask Senator Rupp, a strong opponent of Initiative 300, a question because he may ask me one when we get further into the discussion, if we do. Senator Rupp.

SENATOR RUPP: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Suppose the Attorney General comes back with a finding, such as I suggested, that there are no operations currently in Nebraska in violation of Initiative 300?

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What value then is there to this study?

SENATOR RUPP: This study, I guess, would be a rather moot issue should he come back with that finding.